THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE APPOINTS NEW LIBRARIAN AND DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

The New York Academy of Medicine Library has recently appointed David Neale King, Ph.D., Director of the Division of Information Management and Academy Librarian. Dr. King comes to the Academy from the Library & Center for Knowledge Management and the faculty of the University of California, San Francisco where he is Special Assistant for Informatics Education, head of Education and Consulting Services and clinical assistant professor. Over the previous two decades, he held library and/or faculty positions at Auburn University, the Houston Academy of Medicine — Texas Medical Center, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and University of Kentucky.

Dr. King has written frequently about the role of medical literature in the clinical decision-making process, including the contribution of computer-assisted information services of hospital libraries; creating educational programs in libraries; the many aspects of library technology; and the underlying philosophy and ethics in library reference service. In the national arena, Dr. King has held more than 50 elected and appointed positions in professional organizations, including tenure as chair of the Association of College and Research Libraries Bibliographic Instruction Section and secretary/treasurer of the Special Interest Group on Medical Information of the American Society for Information Science. He served on the editorial board of the Bulletin of the Medical Library Association and is currently managing editor of *communique*, an electronic newsletter from UCSF.

With Dr. King's appointment, the New York Academy of Medicine has created a new Division of Information Management. The division includes the Academy Library, which focuses on service to the Academy fellows, the public, and other health sciences libraries; the Information Systems department, which serves the computing and networking needs of the Academy; and the Historical Collections, which emphasize curatorship and preservation of

the historic record of the health sciences for future generations. As Academy Librarian, Dr. King is the Director of the Regional Medical Library. The Division of Information Management will also pursue new initiatives in research and development of technologic solutions to problems in managing health sciences information.

ANNOUNCEMENT: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC HEALTH INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC

Purpose: The purpose of this outreach initiative is to ensure that health professionals, their patients and the general public are connected to the health information resources they need to make informed health care decisions.

Outreach can take various forms depending on the needs of the target audience: promoting awareness of relevant health information resources at the regional, state, and local level through presentations, demonstrations, and exhibits; linking individuals and organizations with an NN/LM member library for backup assistance in locating hard to find information; obtaining the full text of journal articles; teaching how to search the Internet for reliable and authoritative health information; demonstrating and teaching the use of PubMed, Internet Grateful Med, MEDLINE*plus*, additional NLM databases, and other sources to obtain health information; and developing web links to local, state and regional health-related information to enhance what is available in MEDLINE*plus* for consumers.

Eligibility: Network members in the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Middle Atlantic Region, are eligible to apply. Applications may cover groups of institutions. **A single, NN/LM member lead institution, must apply on behalf of the group.** Health science libraries, health information resource centers, public libraries and state library organizations which provide health information services are eligible for network membership. Contact the Regional Medical Library for information about becoming a network member library.

Funding: This solicitation uses the subcontract mechanism. The lead institution will act as a subcontractor to the NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region with responsibility for the planning, direction, and execution of the proposed project. For a single institution, support is available up to $10,000; a group of institutions may receive up to $40,000. The proposed projects may target individuals and organizations providing health information to the public, as well as targeting the public directly.

Period of Performance: up to 18 months from date of the award.

Deadline for submission of proposals: July 30, 1999

For further information or to obtain a copy of the Request for Proposals contact: NN/LM, Middle Atlantic Region, New York Academy of Medicine, 1216 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10029. Phone: (212) 822-7396 or 800-338-7657.

NLM DISCONTINUES DIRECT ACCESS TO ELHILL AND TOXNET COMMAND/ MENU SYSTEMS ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1999
—prepared by Toby Port
MEDLARS Management Section

All direct public access to ELHILL and the TOXNET command/menu system will cease on September 30, 1999. All DOS, Windows and Macintosh versions of Grateful Med will cease functioning as of September 30, 1999 because they access ELHILL. NLM provides free Web access to all its databases and users have been encouraged to transition to the Web for more than a year.

Web-based Alternatives to ELHILL
ELHILL, NLM's legacy computer retrieval system, which has provided command language access for a fee for almost 30 (!) years will be closed to the public permanently. All users will need to use one of NLM's Web-based search engines, PubMed (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PubMed) or Internet Grateful Med (http://igm.nlm.nih.gov) for their database searching. Currently, PubMed provides access to MEDLINE, PREMEDLINE, and publisher-supplied citations. Internet Grateful Med (IGM) provides access to MEDLINE, PREMEDLINE, and publisher-supplied citations through the PubMed retrieval system. In addition, the following databases are currently available from IGM: AIDSLINE, AIDSDRUGS, AIDSTRIALS, BIOETHICSLINE, ChemID, DIRLINE, HealthSTAR,

HISTLINE, HSRPROJ, OLDMEDLINE, POPLINE, SDILINE, SPACELINE, and TOXLINE. MeSH data may be found on the MeSH browser at http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/99MBrowser.html. Data previously available in AVLINE, CATLINE, and SERLINE are now available on NLM's new Integrated Library System, NLM LOCATORplus, at http://www.nlm.nih.gov/locatorplus/locatorplus.html.

Automatic SDIs and Offline Prints Discontinued
Once ELHILL access is discontinued, **billed User ID codes will no longer function** and users will no longer be able to request offline prints or Automatic SDIs from NLM. However, users can now generate their own SDIs free-of-charge by using the SDILINE database in Internet Grateful Med. IGM currently has just developed a stored search capability that can be used to generate SDIs; documentation on this new feature will be published shortly. NLM also expects to have a stored search feature available as part of PubMed's cubby service (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PubMed/news.html) to replace ELHILL'S SDI function, before ELHILL is discontinued. Availability of this feature will be announced in PubMed and in this publication. Most users are already printing their search results free-of-charge in lieu of using the offline print feature.

TOXNET Billed Access Discontinued
Also on September 30, 1999 billed access to TOXNET databases will cease. TOXNET databases are now available on the Web at http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov. As announced in a Technical Note (http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/nd98/nd98_technote.html#rtecs) in the November-December 1998 NLM Technical Bulletin, NLM discontinued free TOXNET Web access to the Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances (RTECS) on November 13, 1998. This action was taken at the request of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), which produces RTECS. RTECS searchers can contact NIOSH at 1-800-35-NIOSH or visit the NIOSH Web site (http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/homepage.html) to find information on registering for access to RTECS on other systems.

Issuing of Billed Codes Discontinued
Effective immediately, NLM will no longer issue new billed codes and on May 1 the online registration system will cease. Existing codes will continue to work for IGM's personal journal list feature. Internet Grateful Med is developing a new version to be available in the coming weeks that will allow a user to store a personal journal list under a Loansome Doc User ID. It is expected this change will not affect users with a current personal journal list.

Billing Information
NTIS will process and distribute final MEDLARS bills in mid-October for the July-August-September 1999 quarterly billing cycle.

Training to Use PubMed, IGM, TOXNET on the Web, and LOCATORplus
NLM appreciates its users' loyalty to ELHILL. However, the time has come to let go of this groundbreaking and incredibly durable search system and embrace the Web-based search engines that will take us into the future. Information on classes for using PubMed, IGM and TOXNET on the Web is available at http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/mar/online/schedule.html, and self-instructional training manuals may be downloaded from http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/web_based.html. A tutorial on using the new LOCATORplus is available at http://www.nlm.nih.gov/locatorplus/tutorials/quickstart/sld001.htm.

Stay tuned for an article on LOCATORplus to appear shortly in the NLM Technical Bulletin. Please send your comments or questions to custserv@nlm.nih.gov.

RESOURCE AND AREA LIBRARY DIRECTORS MEET
By Mary Mylenki, Acting Director

The annual meeting of the Directors of the Resource and Area Libraries took place on April 14 at the New York Academy of Medicine. The meeting focused on two major topics: the Public Libraries Pilot Project and consumer health in general; and the information needs of public health professionals, with specific reference to the Partners in Information Access project and the public health initiatives underway in the region.

Mary Mylenki introduced the Public Libraries Pilot Project (PLPP) with background of the origin and overall objectives of the project; Kris Markovich, Education Coordinator, then described the project within this region. Julie Sollenberger, director of the Miner Library at the University of Rochester, and Rick Winant, director of the SUNY-Downstate Library in Brooklyn, spoke about their experience as supporting libraries for the PLPP. The group then turned to a general discussion of relationships between health sciences libraries and public libraries; the potential for

future development; and consumer health programs, with reference to NLM's plan to fund a new consumer health librarian position at each of the RMLs, and how this new position may develop and best be utilized.

Angela Ruffin, Outreach Librarian from the National Network Office at NLM, was a guest at the meeting. Ms. Ruffin provided background information about the "Partners in Information Access for Public Health Professionals: NLM/CDC/NN-LM (and other partners) Public Health Initiative." The partnership had its beginnings at a 1995 conference held at NLM and jointly sponsored by NLM, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, and CDC. That conference brought together public health professionals and others interested in utilizing the National Information Infrastructure (NII) to benefit public health.

One of the major recommendations resulting from this conference was that NLM should work with CDC and other organizations to train the public health workforce in the use of electronic information resources. Through the efforts of Betsy Humphreys, who spearheaded NLM's interest in this area, the partnership was formed in 1997. The Partners' Steering Committee, which regularly meets via conference calls, recently held an in-person meeting at NLM. The steering committee is presently identifying action items in four broad areas: publicity, training, continuing education, and recommendations which grew out of the 1998 meeting held at the New York Academy of Medicine, entitled "Accessing Useful Information: Challenges in Health Policy and Public Health."

Two major points relative to the 1998 NYAM meeting were made. First, MeSH is not amenable to public health searching and there should be an action item for NLM to address this issue, and second, there was much concern expressed about the need to identify the quality "grey literature" sources in public health and health policy. The Training Subcommittee of the Partnership has recommended that NLM's MeSH Section work on public health indexing and searching issues, and NICHSR is currently working with Roz Lasker's Public Health Division at the Academy, to identify grey literature sources to be added to those regularly scanned for HealthSTAR selection.

The Partnership has provided funding for 13 outreach subcontracts through the NN/LM. Two of those were awarded in this region to SUNY-Buffalo and the University of Pittsburgh. Gary Byrd, director of the SUNY-Buffalo library, and Barbara Epstein of the University of Pittsburgh described the goals of their respective public

health outreach subcontracts, both of which have web sites. They can be viewed at http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/hsl/ref/publichealth.htm. and http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/outreach/partners/partners.html. The projects have similar goals to the extent that they seek to promote awareness of relevant national, state and local public health information resources; teach how to access and search the Internet for authoritative public health information; provide MEDLINE/PubMed instruction; and inform of methods to access articles and documents.

Besides these major topics, the Directors also heard updates on other ongoing Outreach projects; the National Online Training program; plans for moving the network membership database to a web-based program (already under way); the expected release date for the next generation SERHOLD and the web-based DOCLINE system. RML staff were also pleased to announce the appointment of David King, Ph.D. as the Director of the Division of Information Management and Librarian of the Academy, effective August 1999. Dr. King will also be the Director of the NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region.

ANNUAL TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE HELD IN PHILADELPHIA
By Kris Markovich, Education Coordinator

The regional technology conference *Understanding Genetics Through Information Technology: the Impact of Informatics on Research with an Emphasis* **on** *Cancer Genetics* held on March 30, was co-sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania Biomedical Library and the NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region.

The purpose of this technology awareness conference was to bring together health care professionals, librarians, researchers, students, and anyone interested in genetics and/or informatics from the Philadelphia area and beyond to discuss applications of information technology to problems in cancer and genetics. A total of 167 attendees from ten states (including staff, exhibitors and speakers) participated in the conference sessions and exhibits.

The program succeeded in striking a balance between biomedical science and information technology with

presentations covering the Genome Project, Oncolink, the Cancer Genome Anatomy Project and more. Speakers included Dr. Chris Overton of the Center for Bioinformatics at the University of Pennsylvania and Dr. Alex Lash of the National Center for Biotechnology Information at the National Library of Medicine. Exhibits ranged from *NetLibrary* to *Evolutionary Computation & Clinical Knowledge Discovery: Knowledge Representation as Genetic Metaphor.* Evaluations showed that networking with colleagues, the keynote and Oncolink presentations, and the opportunity to talk with exhibitors were the most valuable components of the day.

Many thanks to the staff of the University of Pennsylvania Biomedical Library for their tremendous effort in getting speakers, participants and technology together. Their endeavors resulted in a highly successful conference.

(Look for an announcement of next year's Technology Awareness conference in the next issue of this newsletter.)

MAPINFO — AN OVERVIEW

By Robert De Angelo, Technical Programs Manager

MapInfo is an example of a Geographical Information Systems (GIS) program that allows the user to present tabular data in a geographical format. This software is becoming increasingly useful in data analysis/visualization, trending, and planning in many areas of work.

MapInfo provides an easy-to-use graphical interface with associated menus and tool bars that most Windows 95 users will find familiar. The program is a 32-bit application that runs on any version of Windows OS (3.1, 95, 98, NT) as well as other platforms such as MAC and UNIX. The program's setup procedure guides the user through the installation process and keeps track of the amount of disk space that is required (as well as available on your system). MapInfo can be installed as either a stand alone (single user) version or across a network. It is recommended that the computer have at least a Pentium processor, 4X CD-ROM, 16 MB of RAM, video card with 2 MB of RAM, and a 1 GB hard drive. A color printer will also be needed to take full advantage of MapInfo's rich color features when printing your final product. The MapInfo software costs approxi-

mately $1,295 for a single user license. Additional costs to consider include software upgrades, technical support services, and training in the use of the software.

MapInfo allows the user to access and utilize many different data formats. The formats supported in version 5.0 include: DBASE DBF, Delimited ASCII, Lotus 1-2-3, Microsoft Access, Microsoft Excel, and Raster Images (including JPEG, GIF, and Bitmap). MapInfo allows for the connection to other databases via Open Database Connectivity (ODBC) and the ability to link and join tables. It also supports Object Linking and Embedding (OLE), allowing the user to embed created maps in other applications such as Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, etc.

MapInfo allows the user to view the data in three main views (windows):

1. Browser Window — view tabular data in a spreadsheet format
2. Map Window — view data geographically on a map
3. Graph Window — allows the user to plot data for graphical comparison

Each of these three windows can be created from a single data source. MapInfo also allows for the selection of specific subsets of data for separate viewing or analysis. The user also has the ability to save any maps and data subsets created by saving to a workspace. Creating a workspace eliminates the need to reconstruct your work again at a later time.

MapInfo allows for the inclusion of different data sets, each as a separate layer, with a single map. You can manipulate each layer to change how the map displays. A useful feature called 'Zoom Layering' permits the user to specify a depth at which certain data points are visible on the map. If you zoom within this range, the data in question will become visible. Once out of the preset range, the data points will disappear. This feature is useful if your map contains large amounts of detailed data. Rather than clutter the map by displaying all of the data at once, setting up zoom layering allows for greater organization and clarity.

You can select data in MapInfo using standard select tools or through querying. The software's strong query tools have been enhanced by the addition of a 'Save Query' option that allows one to save search options/ settings for later use. MapInfo allows users to geocode data for inclusion on a map. Geocoding is the process used to get your data represented as a point on a map. The software reads your data for geographical informa-

tion (address, zipcode, and boundary), finds the corresponding location on the map, and plots points to represent the data. MapInfo allows for automatic (it does it for you) or interactive (you make decision based on prompts from the program) geocoding.

A powerful feature of MapInfo is the ability to create thematic maps. Thematic maps allow for specific data visualization and differentiation. You can also choose from and create thematic templates and generate reports based on your data. The user may import image formats such as GIF and JPEG to use as logos, symbols, backgrounds, or even as maps. You can import an image/photo as a background and use the many editing tools to trace over them.

GIS programs, such as MapInfo, are enabling users to combine maps and data into one presentational package. Use of GIS software, along with the many third party utilities designed for them, allows workers to find new and innovative ways to track operations, projects, growth and analyze/present data in new and innovative ways.

SELECTED MLA TAPES AVAILABLE

The NN/LM office has purchased audiotapes of the General Sessions and several section sessions from the recent Medical Library Association annual meeting held in Chicago. The theme of this year's meeting was "Present Tense; Future Perfect."

The following tapes are available on loan from the NN/LM office:

GENERAL SESSIONS

GS1. **Welcome to MLA '99 and Presidential Address**...*Jacqueline Donaldson Doyle, AHIP, Director of Learning Resources, Merrill Brown MD Health Sciences Library, Samaritan Health System, Phoenix, AZ*

GS2. **Plenary I - The John P. McGovern Lecture**...*Introduction: Robert A. Pisciotta, Associate Chair, 1999 National Program Committee and Associate Director, Library Operations, Archie Dykes Library, University of Kansas City Medical Center-Kansas City;*

"Your Future: Toast of the Town or Just Plain Toast"...*Daniel Burrus, Chief Executive Officer, Burrus Research Associates, Inc., Milwaukee WI*

GS3. **The Janet Doe Lecture**...*Introduction: Wayne J. Peay, Director, Eccles Health Sciences Library, University of Utah-Salt Lake City;*
"Enabling, Empowering, Inspiring: Research and Mentorship Through the Years"...*Sherrilynne Fuller, Ph.D., Director, Health Sciences Libraries and Information Center, University of Washington-Seattle*

GS4. **National Library of Medicine Update**

GS5. **The Joseph Leiter NLM/MLA Lecture**...*Introduction: Suzanne F. Grefsheim, Director, NIH Library, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD;*
"Can We Afford Technological Progress and an Aging Society?"...*Daniel Callahan, PH.D., Director, International Programs, The Hastings Center, Briarcliff Manor, NY*

GS6. **Legislative Update**

GS7. **Inaugural Address**...*Frieda O. Weise, AHIP, President, Medical Library Association, and Executive Director, Health Sciences and Human Services Library, University of Maryland-Baltimore*

GS8. **Plenary II**...*Moderator: Rochelle Minchow, AHIP Member, 1999 National Program Committee, and Head, Medical Center Library, University of California-Irvine, Orange;*
"Medical Libraries, Network Information, and the New Medical Informatics"...*Clifford Lynch, Ph.D., Executive Director, Coalition for Networked Information (CNI), Washington, DC*

SECTION SESSIONS

03. **Medical Informatics, Hospital Libraries, Medical School Libraries, and Research Sections - "A Medical Informatics Research Agenda for the Next Century"**

06. **National Program Committee I - "Perfect Partners for Tense Times: Collaboration and Cooperation with Our Peers"**

DOCLINE Participation, May 1999

In the past year DOCLINE participation among NN/LM members has continued to grow, though slowly. Numbers have actually dropped due to closings and mergers. Percent participation, however, has increased from 92% a year ago to 94% in May 1999.

	Number of SERHOLD Libraries	No. of DOCLINE Participants	Percentage of Eligible Libraries Participating
New York	243	232	95%
New Jersey	99	88	88%
Pennsylvania	193	182	94%
Delaware	9	9	100%
Total	544	511	94%

MLA ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION

As the Medical Library Association celebrates the culmination of its centennial year, we would like to call your attention to one of its perhaps too little known treasures. Over the years MLA has amassed a lengthy collection of oral histories, and continues to add to it. Many of the luminaries of our profession have been interviewed by their peers late in their careers. Their reminiscences and opinions make fascinating reading.

These interviews have been transcribed and published, and MLA has deposited copies in the libraries of each of the eight RMLs' parent institutions, where they are available for loan. While we cannot list them all here (there are approximately 45-50 published), a few names many of you will surely recognize are – in no particular order – Lucretia McClure, Janet Doe, Ursula Poland, Estelle Brodman, Al Brandon, Nina Matheson, Frank B. Rogers. You can search the entire list in the New York Academy of Medicine Library's online catalog under Medical Library Association Oral History, as well as by the interviewee's name if you know it. The oral histories may be borrowed just like any other monograph.

NLM TECHNICAL BULLETIN 1999

The following articles appear in recent issues of the *Technical Bulletin* available on the Web at: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/tb.html.

1999 January-February; 306
- NLM Classification, 5th Edition Additions and Change List 4
- Pub Med: Searching Using Subsets - e3
- OLDMEDLINE Database Moves Back in Time - e4
- Hands On: PubMed Update - e5
- MEDLINE*plus* - e6

1999 March-April; 307
- Now Available LOCATOR*plus* Tutorial! - e2
- New MeSH Browser Available on the Web - e3
- NLM Discontinues Direct Access to ELHILL and TOXNET Command/Menu Systems on September 30, 1999 - e4
- Citing Articles in Journals Published in Print and on the Web - e5
- Hands On - e6
- Next Generation Gateway - e7

07. **National Program Committee II - "New Tools for Perfecting the Future: Techniques to Add to Our Skills"**

09. **Dental Libraries, Hospital Libraries, Medical School Libraries, Nursing and Allied Health Resources, and Pharmacy and Drug Information Sections - "Taking It on the Road: Providing Access to Information Resources for Users Off-site"**

18. **Pharmacy and Drug Information, Hospital Libraries, Medical School Libraries, Medical Society Libraries, and Research Sections - "Evidence Based Medicine: Implications for the Health Sciences Librarian and Other Health Professionals"**

Tapes may be requested via DOCLINE® through the New York Academy of Medicine's ILL department (10029B). Please note in Comments field, "Available from RML." There is no charge for borrowing MLA tapes; please order by number and title.

The RML no longer orders the full set of MLA tapes. If you are interested in sessions which do not appear on this list, you may call or e-mail the NN/LM office, and we will be happy to provide information on other sessions which were recorded and where to order those tapes.